REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all pending in the application and stand rejected. The Examiner has considered the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 13, 2005, accepted the formal drawings, and acknowledged the claim for foreign priority.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the telephonic interview conducted on November 30, 2007. During the interview, Applicant pointed out the differences between claim 1 and Epps, and the Examiner stated that a new search would be conducted in view of the differences.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,677,930 (hereinafter "Epps").

Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is patentable because each and every element of the claims is not disclosed by Epps. Claim 1 recites:

A packet forwarding system, comprising:

an input unit for inputting first data in first units of transmission;

a packet memory management unit for assembling the first data into an Internet Protocol (IP) packet and loading the IP packet into a packet memory, and reading out a pointer of an IP packet header and a pointer of an IP packet trailer connected to the IP packet header;

a header processing unit for deciding a packet classification and a transmission

destination by using the IP packet header, and reporting to the packet memory

management unit the pointer of the IP packet trailer to be connected to the IP packet

header; and

an output unit for dividing the IP packet trailer read from the packet

memory management unit into second data in second units of transmission based on

the pointer of the IP packet header transmitted from the header processing unit and

the reported pointer of the IP packet trailer to be connected to the IP packet header,

and outputting the second data to a channel.

For example, Applicant respectfully submits that Epps fails to disclose a system

comprising an output unit for dividing the IP packet trailer read from the packet memory

management unit into second data in second units of transmission based on the pointer of the IP

packet header transmitted from the header processing unit and the reported pointer of the IP

packet trailer to be connected to the IP packet header, and outputting the second data to a

channel, in combination with other elements of the claim. In contrast, there is nothing in the

sections of Epps cited by the Examiner which shows such an output unit.

In the Office Action, the Examiner cites column 9, line 40-45 as allegedly disclosing an

output unit for dividing the IP packet trailer read from the packet memory management unit into

second data in second units of transmission based on the pointer of the IP packet header. The

cited section, however, merely discloses packet header buffers (PHBs), and do not mention

dividing the IP packet <u>trailer</u> read from the packet memory management unit.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that column 27, lines 45-53 and column 40, line 4-12 merely disclose an Receive Buffer Manager queue manager 1210 and a Fabric Interface Module 170. In the sections cited by the Examiner, there is no mention of the RBM 1210 or the FIM 170 performing any function which would correspond to "transmitted from the header processing unit and the pointer of the IP packet trailer connected to the IP packet header, and outputting the second data to a channel," as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, Applicant submits that the following explanation of an exemplary embodiment of the invention shows the distinctions between the invention as claimed in claim 1 and Epps.

In the detailed operation of the exemplary embodiment, if data are input to the input unit, the packet memory management unit reads out the location information on the header and the trailer from the packet memory. The packet memory management unit knows only the location information on all the trailers.

Subsequently, the header processing unit determines the packet classification and the transmission destination using the read-out header, and retransmits specific location information from among the location information on all the trailers known by the packet memory management unit to the packet memory management unit.

Consequently, the header processing unit reports to the packet memory management unit the location information on the trailer to be connected to the header where the packet clarification and the transmission destination are determined.

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, claim 1 is patentable.

Claims 2-5 and 11, which depend from claim 1, and claim 6 and its dependent claims 7-10 and 12, are patentable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 1.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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